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TO : Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates
Via : Chief, Plans and Policy Staff
FROM : Chief, Far East Division

DATE: 20 September 1950

SUBJECT: Comments on Intelligence Reporting from the Philippines

25X1A9a 1. An informal JCS request for CIA comment on intelligence reporting from the Philippines has been forwarded to this Division through [REDACTED] of DCI's office and [REDACTED] D/FE comments are attached.

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2. In this connection it is pertinent to note that D/FE receives virtually no JUSMAG reports and that the attache establishment in Manila includes only two naval officers.

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D/FE Comments on Intelligence Reporting from the Philippines

Military

Reporting on military developments is inadequate in quantity, quality and timeliness. Following are outstanding weaknesses:

1. CIA receives practically no reports on operations of the Philippine military forces.
2. Order of battle data are not reported promptly and consistently. In particular information concerning the reorganized status of military commands and units frequently lacks detail necessary for analysis and is generally slow in reaching CIA.
3. Very little current information has been provided CIA concerning the utilization and effectiveness of US military aid to the Philippine Armed Forces.
4. Reporting on Communist-led Huk movements and activities is lacking in detail and continuity.
5. There is a particular lack of specific information concerning Philippine vulnerabilities to sabotage and corrective security measures.

Political

Reporting on political developments, although occasionally excellent, is not consistently good in quality, quantity or timeliness. More frequent specific information concerning President Quirino's political position and prospects is particularly required for accurate analysis.

Economic

Reporting on basic economic developments is good in quality but could be improved in quantity and timeliness. There is an especial need for more frequent reporting on the Government's financial position and prospects.